

## CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA) (NURSE AIDE)

<b>Certifying Authority</b>	<p><b>Marvin Tooman, Ed. D.</b>  <b>Health Facilities Division</b>  <b>Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals</b>  <b>Lucas State Office Bldg</b>  <b>321 E 12th St</b>  <b>Des Moines IA 50319-0082</b>  <b>Phone: (515) 281-4233</b>  <b>Fax: (515) 242-5022</b>  <b>E-mail: marvin.tooman@dia.state.ia.us</b></p>
<b>Legal Authority</b>	Code of Iowa 441, Chapter 81
<b>Job Description</b>	Certified nursing assistants provide personal care including feeding, bathing, and assisting patients with personal hygiene. They check patients' vital signs, make progress assessments, deliver meals, maintain a secure environment, and perform treatments and other tasks. The CNA works under the supervision of a licensed nurse.
<b>Education &amp; Experience Required</b>	<p>Though not licensed in Iowa, an individual wishing to become a CNA must either enroll themselves or be sponsored by their employer to take the 75-hour course and competency tests provided by a testing site (usually the community colleges). After they have completed the course and passed both the skills and written competency tests, their name is automatically placed on the Iowa Nurse Aide Registry and they are issued a 6-digit ID number. Thirty of the 75 course hours are clinical.</p> <p>Nurse aides working in certified skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities are required to be on a nurse aide registry. If a nurse aide does not work at that occupation for two years, the aide will have to retake both competency tests to get their status updated on the Registry and to be eligible to work in Iowa. The cost of training is a minimum of \$150; however, nurse aides employed in certified skilled nursing/nursing facilities are not required to pay for the cost of training or testing.</p> <p>Guidelines and requirements for CNAs vary according to where the individual is going to work. Therefore, if interested in this occupation, contact the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Division of Health Facilities, at (515) 281-4115 for further information.</p> <p>Individuals found guilty of abusing, neglecting, or mistreating residents by a court of law or had a finding of abuse, neglect, mistreatment or misappropriation of resident property entered on the state nurse aide registry would not be able to be employed in a long-term care facility.</p> <p>Certification as a nurse aide provides the individual with education needed to pursue additional opportunities to work as a medication aide, rehabilitation aide, hospital nurse aide, home health aide and will eventually become a prerequisite for entering nursing school.</p>
<b>Continuing Education</b>	If employed as a nurse aide in a certified long-term care facility, the aide must receive 12 hours of in-service training per year. The employer usually provides this training.

<b>Examination</b>	At the end of the training period, the applicant is required to take both a written and a practical exam if employed in a nursing facility. The exam may be administered at the training facility.
<b>Fees</b>	<p>Application: None</p> <p>Duration: Certificates are good unless there should arise an allegation of abuse or in case of unemployment for two years or more.</p> <p>Renewal: None</p> <p>Exam: \$15 to \$45</p> <p>Other: \$150 (minimum) for training, except for those aides working in certified nursing homes and who are not required to pay this fee. This fee is typically paid by the employer.</p>
<b>SOC Code, Title, &amp; Avg. Hourly Wage</b>	31-1012 – Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants (\$9.85)
<b>Number of Licenses Issued</b>	<p>Total number of certificates active as of December 31,</p> <p>2003: 31,198</p> <p>2002: 32,854</p> <p>2001: 32,753</p> <p>2000: 31,381</p> <p>1999: 30,841</p> <p>1998: 33,221</p> <p>All certificate counts are active and eligible to work.</p>